



a 12-part series  
of meditations on the Holy Spirit  
with prayer poems  
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prayer matters



## The Gift #12

# Recreator

### CONTENTS

#### Introduction

The Gift #1	The Holy Spirit
The Gift #2	For the asking
The Gift #3	Re-minder
The Gift #4	Defence
The Gift #5	Tell me
The Gift #6	Guidance
The Gift #7	Traces
The Gift #8	Adoption
The Gift #9	Joy
The Gift #10	In us
The Gift #11	Promised
The Gift #12	Recreator

*Paul writes: 'At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.'*

*Titus 3:3-8 (NIV)*

Generous God,  
this is a trustworthy saying:  
Once I was foolish,  
disobedient,  
deceived, enslaved.

Then kindness,  
love and mercy  
came my way  
and I was  
saved, washed,  
reborn, renewed,  
justified, accepted,  
and soaked in hope.

You make  
all the difference.  
May my gratitude  
and trust  
in you  
grow and show itself  
in deep-rooted, practical  
devotion.

Amen

# The Gift #11

## Promised

*Paul writes, 'And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of his glory.'*

*Eph 1:13-14 (NIV)*

Holy Spirit of promise,  
the pledge and foretaste  
of all to come,  
I've been marked in Jesus,  
sealed by you as a sign that  
I am God's possession now,  
destined for great things,  
to the praise of God's glory.

This is just the beginning.  
Help me to live in that reality.

Amen.



## INTRODUCTION

This series of 12 readings and prayer poems on the Holy Spirit was originally published on the PRAYER MATTERS blog in the run up to Pentecost in 2017.

The series reflects on various aspects of “The Gift” the Father has sent to minister to us and through us as we seek to live as Jesus’ disciples and witness to the new life we have in Christ.

Check out the original blog posts to view the photographs accompanying the series:  
[https://irenebom.com/prayer\\_matters/tag/the-gift/?order=asc](https://irenebom.com/prayer_matters/tag/the-gift/?order=asc)

For guidelines on writing your own prayer poems, see  
[https://irenebom.com/prayer\\_matters/2017/07/11/on-writing-prayer-poems](https://irenebom.com/prayer_matters/2017/07/11/on-writing-prayer-poems).

## The Gift #1

# The Holy Spirit

*On one occasion, while he was eating with the apostles, Jesus gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'*

*Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)*

Jesus, baptized baptizer,  
the waiting is over.  
The Spirit has come.  
The Spirit is here.

Still, we ask,  
Jesus, counsel us  
as you did the early disciples  
and guide our movements today,  
so we might be in the right place  
and the right frame of mind  
– expectant and willing –  
willing to be filled,  
like a billowing sail,  
carried, transported,  
borne, supported.

Amen.

## The Gift #10

# In us

*Paul writes, 'What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you – guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.'*

*2 Timothy 1:13-14 (NIV)*

Spirit who lives in me,  
help me guard the good deposit treasure  
entrusted to me.  
Help me keep going strong.

I am a potential joy and crown  
to those invested in me,  
if I keep the faith  
and pass it on.

I can't do it without you.

## The Gift #9

# Joy

*Paul writes, 'You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.'*

*1 Thessalonians 1:6-7 (NIV)*

Spirit,  
thank you for those  
who model to me  
how to live  
as a joy-receiver,  
and to-joy-transformer,  
even in the midst of  
severe suffering.

May I have the faith and courage  
to do the same.

Amen.

## The Gift #2

# For the asking

*Jesus said: 'If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'*

*Luke 11:13 (NIV)*

Our Father in heaven  
giver of good gifts  
– good to the core –  
you know what we need  
to live  
and move  
and have our being.

We ask you  
– because Jesus said we could –  
– because Jesus said we should –  
give us our daily bread  
give us your Spirit, we pray.

Amen

## The Gift #3

# Re-minder

*Jesus said: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."*

*John 14:26 (NIV)*

Father-sent Advocate  
sent in Jesus' name  
teach me  
teach me all things  
and remind me of all Jesus said  
not because I forget per se (though I do)  
but because the mind of Christ is  
not yet fully formed in me.

### Coda

I am a building site,  
under construction,  
and the building company  
is called Trinity.

## The Gift #8

# Adoption

*Paul writes, "The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father.""*

*Rom 8:15 (NIV))*

Slaves have reason  
to fear the unreasonable,  
the shocking,  
the arduous,  
the harsh,  
the unyielding,  
the uncalled-for,  
the arbitrary,  
the excessive,  
the unbridled,  
the severe.

I am not a slave.  
I am a child of Abba, Father.  
Jesus' Abba,  
Jesus' Father.  
Spirit, inspire in me  
the appropriate response:  
Cries of joy!

## The Gift #7

# Traces

*Jesus said: 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'*

*Acts 1:8 (NIV)*

Like ripples,  
like soundwaves,  
like seeds carried aloft by the wind,  
may we leave traces  
of the Spirit-transformed,  
Spirit-transforming  
life within us,  
traces that echo on  
and bear fruit.

Amen.

## The Gift #4

# Defence

*Jesus said: 'When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.'*

*Luke 12:11-12 (NIV)*

I've never been arrested,  
but there have been times aplenty  
I was forced  
to take a stand.

Teach me, Holy Spirit,  
to trust that  
when trials come  
you will give me  
words that protect and reflect  
the new life taking root in me.

Holy Spirit, be my defence.

## The Gift #5

# Tell me

*Jesus said: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father – the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father – he will testify about me.'*

*John 15:26 (NIV)*

Speak, Holy Spirit, I am listening.  
Tell me of Jesus,  
of his love revealed  
in power  
in word and deed,  
leaving nothing undone,  
love given freely, completely,  
a love that will not let me go.

Spirit of the whole truth  
and nothing but the truth,  
tell me the old, old story  
so Jesus becomes ever more real,  
ever more present  
in the new of this now.

Amen

## The Gift #6

# Guidance

*Jesus said: 'When he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.'*

*John 16:13 (NIV)*

Thank you, God,  
for the truth,  
all the truth,  
imparted,  
from Father  
to Son  
to Spirit  
to us.

May I receive the truth you impart  
with open arms, open heart,  
and handle it  
in ways that bring you pleasure.

Amen.